

SPOKE

Conestoga College, Kitchener

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What's Inside

NEWS



The Alumni of Distinction Awards

Conestoga graduates honored with Alumni of Distinction awards
Page 2

ISSUES



Financial changes to Ontario's post-secondary education system.

Page 5

ACTIVITIES



Minor league hockey comes to Doon recreation centre.
Page 6

COMMENTARY

Page 4

The joys and frustrations of road rage

Viagra, the pill that won't quit

Conestoga celebrates faculty excellence



The 1998 Conestoga College Employees of Excellence in Education conference was held at the Doon campus in Kitchener on June 3 to 5. The planning committee were (back left to right): Duane Shadd, Jeanette Walker, Geoff Johnstone, Pat St. John, Bruce Bjarquist; (front left to right) Lynn Loggan, Jane McDonald, Erica Stoermer, Janet Zilio, and Ruth Heard.

(Photo by Anita Santarossa)

Conference gives faculty chance to talk, says chair

By Anita Santarossa

About 300 Conestoga College employees attended approximately 70 workshops at the 1998 Employees of Excellence in Education Conference from June 3 to 5.

The theme for this year's conference was "celebrating excellence", said Jane McDonald, chair of the organization committee.

Plans for this year's event began last fall, said McDonald.

"What is really important to recognize is that the event is planned, delivered and attended by the college's employees who volunteer their time and effort," she said.

The conference is organized so employees from all campuses and faculties get the opportunity to talk, said McDonald.

"It is a wonderful opportunity for all of us to come together," said McDonald. "But unfortunately some people are not able to attend because of busy schedules."

There will always be individuals who won't be able to attend, said McDonald.

"Those who teach 52 weeks of the year are the ones who usually miss out, which is really unfortunate," said McDonald.

Recognizing that it is impossible to accommodate everyone's schedule, McDonald said, this time of year is usually the best for the

majority of people.

However, she said all teaching and support staff were encouraged to get out to the workshops.

About 70 workshops were available this year and about 300 employees attended, McDonald said.

She said the workshops are set up to accommodate as many employees as possible.

"Some workshops are only two to three hours in length and others run for the entire day," said McDonald. "This gives everyone a chance to take part."

Workshops focusing on social, rather than professional development, were held over the noon-hour sessions, allowing

participants to enjoy more social activities during lunch break, she said.

Some of those workshops included aromatherapy, walk fit, and squash clinics.

Every year the committee sends out a questionnaire asking employees what workshops they would be interested in attending, for any new ideas for workshops and how they evaluated the previous year's conference, said McDonald.

She said this survey helps the committee plan for the following year's events.

"The most attended workshops are usually the computer workshops," said McDonald.



Fun, family and friends

Colleagues and family members honored retiring LASA teacher Bob Hays at a retirement party June 5. From left: Joe Martin, dean of Conestoga College's school of applied arts and the school of access and preparatory studies; Hays; James Church, founding president of Conestoga College; and John Tibbits, current Conestoga president.

(Photo by Amanda Fickling)

Antique car show hits Crossroads

The central region of the Historical Automobile Society will hold its annual car show at Doon Heritage Crossroads in Kitchener.

The event, to be held June 28 from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., will feature over 100 antique cars, trucks, street rods, custom and classic automobiles, a June 3 press release stated.

New this year will be a display of vintage commercial vehicles including the Schneiders Boehmers and Reitzl vehicles.

A square-dancing demonstration and musical entertainment will also be part of the event.

Automobiles dated 1978 and older are expected to be put on display.



The Alumni of Distinction Awards

Mary Wright, director of alumni services, holds the plaque that will be engraved with names of recipients for the alumni of distinction award.

(Photo by Casey Johnson)

Conestoga honors alumni

Graduates will receive Alumni of Distinction Award

By Casey Johnson

If you have ever watched *The Nature of Things* hosted by David Suzuki, then you have also watched the skills of a Conestoga College graduate at work.

James Heer, a 1981 graduate of the journalism-print program at Doon and the producer of the popular nature/documentary show on CBC, will be one of three recipients who will receive the Alumni of Distinction Award during convocation in June.

"Conestoga College provided me with the skills I needed for employment," said Heer. "It (the journalism program) gave me the confidence I needed to go out and get a good job."

Heer, who has been with *The Nature of Things* for six years, will not be able to attend this year's convocation to accept his award because he will be with Suzuki at NASA in Houston, Tex., filming a new documentary called *Escape from Earth*, an American production being re-shaped for the Canadian market.

Another recipient of the award is Karren (Dave) Arjune, a 1991 graduate from the mechanical engineering technology program.

Arjune, who was born in Cromarty, Guyana, in South America, said, "Without hesitation, I would recommend the mechanical engineering program

at Doon to anyone wanting to get into that industry.

"The teachers are good, the programs were well suited for what I was looking for, and I really felt comfortable there."

"Just one day after graduation, I was promoted to plant manager at the company I was working for at that time."

Since then, Arjune has opened his own business called Arjune Engineering and Manufacturing Inc. In its first year, Arjune's company tripled its projected sales, and in its second year, AEM did over \$1 million in sales.

The other recipient of the award is Jennifer Ertel, who graduated in 1991 from the recreation leadership program at Doon.

Ertel currently works as a recreation therapist for Vancouver Hospital's health sciences centre, GF Strong Site, an acquired brain injury program.

She founded, and is president of, World Access, a non-profit organization that promotes recreation adventure trips for people with and without disabilities.

"The Alumni of Distinction Award is a mirror of the Premier's Award," said Mary Wright, the manager of alumni services.

"It raises the profile of some of our campus grads," she said.

"The winners of the award will automatically represent Conestoga

College as Premier's Awards candidates," said Wright.

The Premier's Award was established by the provincial government on the Ontario college system's 25th anniversary.

The award recognizes graduates' career successes and volunteer contributions to their communities.

There are four disciplines in which a graduate can win both the Alumni of Distinction Award and the Premier's Award. They are: applied arts, business, engineering technology, and health sciences.

The winning graduate, in each category for the Premier's Award, receives a plaque and a \$5,000 bursary or scholarship.

They may then set the criteria as to where that bursary will go. Most will chose their alma mater, program, said Wright.

Last year, Conestoga College established the Alumni of Distinction Award to give recognition to a graduate's success and contribution to their community.

Nominations for the alumni award are submitted through former teachers, fellow alumni and present employers of the graduates.

The winners will be presented with a plaque at convocation. The engraved plaque will hang in Alumni Hall on the upper concourse of the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre at Doon.

238 awards available to excelling students

By Amanda Flickling

Students seeking ways to finance their education should look at what scholarships and awards are available, said financial aid officer Carol Walsh.

Walsh said Conestoga College has awards and scholarships available to students who do well in their programs.

According to the student procedure guide, there were 238 awards distributed among 34 programs at Conestoga College for the 1996-97 academic year.

Students often just scan over the awards section in the book, said Walsh. But they should carefully read the descriptions of the awards and scholarships before they start school, she said during an interview.

"That would give them something to strive for."

Scholarships are given to cover tuition expenses, said Walsh. The money is to be applied to studies and is often given to those who have high academic achievement.

Awards may be money, but they can also be certificates, books, and other things, she said. Awards are given in recognition of achievement, and it may be presented for high academics or an excellent project, said Walsh.

Lists of awards and scholarships are given to faculty members each year, said Walsh.

From those lists, nominations are submitted by teachers.

The winners receive their awards at the end of the academic year during convocation, said Walsh.

The most prestigious award is the James Church Award, said Walsh. Fifteen students have applied for this honor this year.

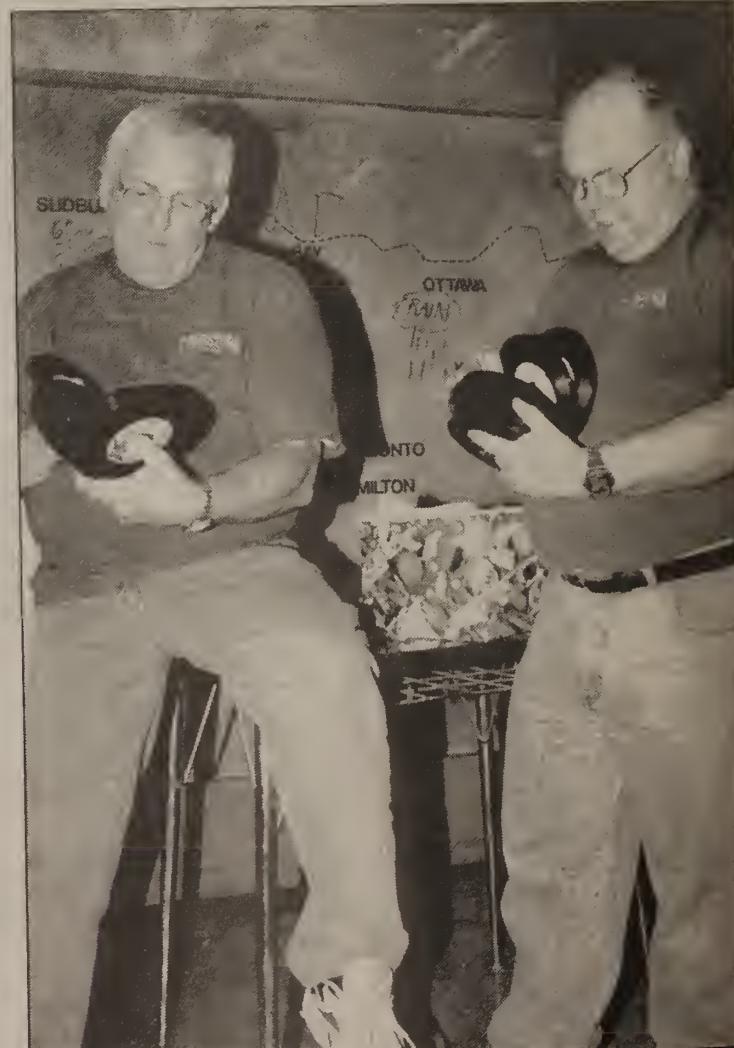
To be eligible for the Church award, a student must maintain a minimum A grade in all of his or her final-year courses, and have made some contribution to society and gained something from it. He or she must then submit a summary on his or her experiences. From the summaries a committee chooses the winner.

Whoever is chosen for the award has to make a speech at convocation, said Walsh. The winner is notified before the graduation so he or she can prepare, she said.

All awards and scholarships are not determined by teachers, said Walsh. Awards from donors outside of the school are open for students. Guidelines have to be followed to apply, she said.

Walsh also said students can look on the Web for financial aids available to them. There are certain programs, that a student can access, that will list the prizes he or she is qualified for, said Walsh.

Financial aid services wants all of Conestoga's awards on the Web for next year, she said.



Vintage vinyl

Dan Fisher, left, a radio technologist, and Mike Thurnell, a teacher in the broadcasting-radio and TV program, inspect 45s that will be sold at a garage sale in September. The broadcasting department was getting rid of excess equipment June 8.

(Photo by Lisa Roberts)

Journalism educators elect president

A member of the journalism faculty at Conestoga College was elected president of the Ontario Journalism Educators' Association on June 5.

Jim Hagarty, who has taught journalism part-time at the Doon campus since 1994, was named president at the association's 22nd annual meeting at Cambrian College in Sudbury. He was vice-president for the past year, and will replace Bill Radunsky from Cambrian.

The journalism programs at eight Ontario community colleges were represented at this year's meeting, including Sheridan, Loyalist, Durham and Humber, as well as Cambrian and Conestoga.

The agenda for the meeting included discussion of proposed new standards for journalism programs. Peter Wells, from the Ministry of Education, was on hand to field questions about the government's proposed new guidelines.

Also discussed was a request from the Ontario Community Newspaper Association to develop closer ties with the journalism programs at Ontario's community colleges.

Two representatives from the OCNA discussed the need for upgrading many of the journalists now employed by the association's member newspapers.

The associations agreed to create subcommittees to take a deeper look at the matter.



Weatherman Dave MacDonald plans to help start a Christian radio station in Kitchener called Faith-FM.

(Photo by Jeannette Altwegg)

Weatherman predicting new air-wave patterns

By Jeannette Altwegg

Most may know him as the weatherman from CKCO-TV News, but these days Dave MacDonald is volunteering his time to help start a Christian radio station in Kitchener.

Spotted on June 8 at the Doon campus of Conestoga College in Kitchener, MacDonald was looking for old professional broadcasting studio gear that the broadcasting program at Doon no longer needed.

"We can't afford to buy new stuff," MacDonald said in an interview. "As long as this stuff has got some life left in it, we can make use of it."

MacDonald said he figures the radio station would need about \$1.25 million in funds or pledges before they could make an application to the Canadian Radio, Television and Telecommunications Commission.

"However, with the generosity of people at Conestoga College, that (equipment) will cut our material expenses way down," he said.

Faith-FM, as MacDonald calls the radio-station-to-be, will be a Christian radio station based in Kitchener to support local music talent, said MacDonald.

Since they don't have a broad-

casting licence yet, "we're taking a step of faith, so we're calling it Faith-FM," MacDonald said.

He said he has been working on the project along with several other people for five to six years now. It's just over the last couple of years that they have started to produce some Christian programming on community radio, MacDonald said.

The Sound of Faith is a 15-minute weekday program that airs at 5:30 a.m. on CKWR (98.5 FM), MacDonald said.

He said he also just started co-hosting a one-hour Sunday morning show called The Sunday Sound of Faith, with Bruce Johnston, who recently retired from CKCO-TV.

Most of the programming for the new station — 70 to 75 per cent — would consist of music, said MacDonald, adding that Faith-FM would make it a priority to promote local Christian musicians.

Their current library includes about 150 albums of local Christian solo artists and groups. MacDonald said they are encouraging local artists to submit their tapes and CDs.

"We have no need to bring in Amy Grant and Michael W. Smith if we have all this great talent right in our back yard," he said. "We

also want to devote quite a bit of time to what the Christian community has to say," he said.

Being on a commercial radio station will help local musicians get started, said MacDonald.

Although not fully opened yet, the studio of Faith-FM is located at 665 King St. E., in Kitchener.

One of the hurdles MacDonald identified in starting a Christian radio station is that the broadcasting commission only gives out licences for religious stations.

This is a problem for the station, he said. To be a religious station, equal air time must be distributed among all religions. This means Faith-FM would have to look to other religions for support in starting the radio station, he said.

"We're not really sure how we're going to approach that yet," MacDonald admitted.

"We just hope that, if we have all our t's crossed and our i's dotted, and we have the funding to back us up, we'll be looked favorably upon."

For now, Faith-FM supporters will just have to be patient, MacDonald said.

"It took them 18 years to get a Christian radio station in New Zealand in the mid-'70s. Now they're a big success. We just have to learn how to be patient."

Options for students

Conestoga enters partnership with Alberta university

By Jeannette Altwegg

Conestoga College has formed a new partnership with Alberta's Athabasca University, said Grant McGregor, college principal.

McGregor said this agreement is one of the latest in a number of alliances between Conestoga College and several universities.

It is intended to give Conestoga graduates an opportunity to complete a long-distance degree without losing most of the credit they earned at the community college level.

The problem is, he said, Ontario universities don't always give college programs an awful lot of credit towards a degree.

"What I wanted to do was set up a system where our students can get full credit for their work here and complete a degree in the shortest possible time," McGregor said during a recent interview.

McGregor said he has found that an increasing number of business or engineering technology students who've completed a college diploma would also like a bachelor's

degree.

"The problem is, a lot of people can't necessarily go away to complete a university degree, and get somewhat left out on these things."

That is where Athabasca University comes in, McGregor said. McGregor said he has been trying to arrange a partnership with Athabasca for the last three years. Athabasca is Canada's best-known post-secondary long-distance school, said McGregor.

The process for any kind of partnership with a university is complex, McGregor said.

Applications have to go through the general faculties and councils and the ultimate decision will be agreed to by the university senate.

McGregor said college tuition fees are significantly lower than those of universities, so Conestoga has a vital economic advantage. Students could

spend three years at Conestoga and another year or two completing a degree.

"This helps students keep tuition lower and still get a good education out of it," McGregor said.

These partnerships, he said, cre-

"This helps students keep tuition lower and still get a good education out of it."

Grant McGregor
principal, Conestoga College



Conestoga College principal Grant McGregor says the association with Athabasca University, Alberta, will benefit Conestoga grads who are not able to go away to complete a university degree.

(Photo by Jeannette Altwegg)

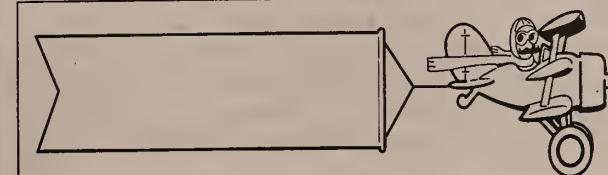
ate a number of advantages for Conestoga students. Many graduates who want to stay relatively close to home can attend Buffalo State College in New York or Northwood University in Michigan and still be home on

weekends, he said.

Another option is to find adventure in Australia at the University of Western Sydney, he said.

"Athabasca adds one other dimension for people who have family commitments, or are work-

ing here," McGregor said. "They can continue their life-long learning process and convert their diploma into a degree at home on weekends. It means there are options now, which is what I wanted," he said.



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CORRECTION
The Canadian 1/2 Pints' team captain was mistakenly identified in the June 8 issue of Spoke. Farmer Pete is the team captain. Spoke regrets the error.

CLARIFICATION
In the June 8 Spoke survey on teachers' right to strike, Annette Claessens said she meant the government needed to cut fat off the top, not the teachers.

Guest column**The wonders of road rage**

With the summer months upon us, a new species of driver is out on the roads in full force. This person is precisely known as the bad driver.

Not that these drivers aren't out in the winter, because everyone seems to drive badly in the snow.

These seasonal hazards come in many shapes and sizes, and I'm positive everyone has run into them at one time or another, either literally or figuratively.

I had an encounter with a bad driver recently. I would actually like to call him a mad driver rather than a bad driver.

I was approaching a stoplight and was about five inches away from the car in front of me when I realized that someone was trying to back out onto the road and onto the space in front of me.

There was a car behind me, so I had no choice but to stay where I was. The man who was trying to get out thought otherwise. He got out of his van, his face beet red with anger, and yelled at me for not letting him out.

What was I supposed to do? Ram the car in front of me so he could get out onto the street? I don't think so. Instead, I just stared as a grown man went into an immature fit of rage because he didn't get his way.

It never ceases to amaze me how much maturity people lose when they get behind

In order to get out of the concrete jungle alive, and survive the phenomena of road rage, it is best to keep your eyes on the road and your hands on the steering wheel.

couple of times. The latter solution usually gets them good and riled up.

What drives me insane is when I'm clipping along at a good pace, at the speed limit, of course, and someone pulls out of a parking lot in front of me like a madman. Then he or she proceeds down the remain-

the wheel.

A friend of mine also had an encounter with a mad driver recently. She and her boyfriend were driving to a friend's house one afternoon when someone cut them off.

Of course, being a bad driver, this guy thought my friend had done something wrong.

He proceeded to follow them all the way to their friend's house, and when they arrived, he got out of his car and yelled, screamed and threatened violence against these poor kids who had done nothing wrong.

Did this guy have nothing better to do on a Saturday afternoon than harass a couple of college kids? Obviously not.

Road rage aside, there are a number of characteristics that can be attributed to a bad driver.

First off, bad drivers either always drive 20 kilometres below the speed limit or 20 kilometres above. Usually, they drive 20 kilometres below when you're in a hurry. They brake for no apparent reason and tailgate no matter how fast you're driving. To satisfy the tailgaters, you can either speed up or tap your brakes a

Honey! I'm late for work.
Have you seen my gun?



* Angela Clayfield is a second semester journalism student.

The streets just aren't safe anymore . . .

der of the street at a snail's pace. But as soon as a traffic light turns yellow, the car goes magically faster than a speeding bullet.

What kills me is that it is always the driver who spent the last block weaving back and forth across two lanes of traffic who doesn't hesitate to holler out the window what you did wrong two streets back.

I'm usually not even lucky enough to get yelled at; I get the one-finger salute. I have some simple advice for those of

you who have already or have yet to come across this horrible breed of driver.

Do not, under any circumstances, stoop to their level. Keep your hands on the wheel and your eyes on the road, and you'll get out of the concrete jungle alive.

And the next time you're lucky enough to be given the finger, instead of yelling obscenities just smile and wave. They love that.

Jaimie Clark is a third semester journalism student.

Viagra — does it harmlessly live up to the hype?

It's a little blue pill, and it's causing a big fuss. Viagra, the wonder drug for middle-aged men, has been hailed as a medicinal miracle for the '90s.

In other words, if I may be blunt, it revives the sex lives of men everywhere who have problems getting it up.

There have been success stories galore reported in mainstream media: endless testimonials by men afflicted by midlife crisis who boast the rejuvenating powers of this prescription, and how it stabilizes the intimacy they share with their partners.

Recently, Viagra has appeared in several stories in the tabloids, if their credibility can be undisputed. These stories boast of how popular talk show host Jerry Springer has become a sexual slave to the little blue pills.

Apparently, his obviously overactive libido has nothing to do with his

unbearable burden. While he's surrounded by silicone-injected bimbos on his nightly trash-fest, it must be easier to blame the Viagra.

Currently, there have been reports of women taking the new drug. Apparently, it boosts the sex drive of women of any age, turning them into hormonal beasts. One wonders if side effects include a deepening voice and appearance of chest hair.

But does Viagra harmlessly live up to the hype?

Testosterone-related successes aside, there haven't been as many reports of its failure or, worse, any possible side effects. Those that have been reported include possible color-blindness, and there is no indication as to whether or not this condition could become permanent.

Needless to say, it would be too obvious to quote the age-old saying, "If you don't stop, you'll go blind."

Another somewhat alarming statistic has been a recent report of 16 deaths in North America. All were male, and all were taking Viagra. However, North American

medical associations haven't specified whether or not the ingestion of the anti-impotency drug was directly related to the deaths. It's an unnerving statistic nonetheless, when you think about it.

When a new product is introduced to a market, it is aesthetically pleasing to boost the positive aspects of the product, and downplay any negativity. Naturally, one wishes to promote a product for its appealing qualities, instead of broadcasting what's wrong with it.

This scares me, and not because I'm directly threatened by any sexual downfall as a female in my mid-20s. The denial of any harmful effects Viagra may cause worries me because the drug has been built up to such an extent that it's given the public a false sense of hope.

There is a very valid cause for alarm with Viagra. It can easily become a crutch for persons who own prescriptions to this somewhat convincing miracle. This adds up to a habit that is akin to drug abuse, and everyone knows that addictions are unhealthy.

Plus, I don't know how my self-esteem could survive every time I became intimate with my partner who couldn't proceed before popping one of those pills.

Also, how anyone can physically experiment with pharmaceuticals without doing all of the research, without looking at both sides of the story, is beyond me.

Personally speaking, I would greatly appreciate hearing all the facts about any new drug that could change my hormonal cycles before ingesting something that could give my sex drive a complete makeover.

Remember the whole breast implant revolution a few decades ago? Advocates for this frightening bodily alteration heralded the procedure as a miracle for women.

Now look at the results of these transformations. Injecting substances that don't belong in one's body does in fact do more harm than good.

Hopefully history won't be forgotten by those who appear to be repeating it.

SPOKE

Keeping Conestoga College connected

SPOKE is published and produced weekly by the journalism students of Conestoga College.

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No Robin Hoods in NDP forest, says Martiniuk

Debate continues on financing post-secondary education

By Michael Hilborn

Steps being implemented by the Progressive Conservative government will bring radical changes in post-secondary education in Ontario, an NDP convention in Hamilton concluded.

The provincial New Democratic Party's annual convention in Hamilton, held May 22-24, resolved to implement a number of changes should they form the next government.

The essence of the resolution was a pledge to freeze all tuition fees immediately, eliminate all fees within 10 years and increase the availability of loans and grants. The party proposed that all eligible students be given a grant amounting to 10 per cent of their total tuition costs in addition to relaxing Ontario Student Assistance Program requirements.

Cathy Kerr, K-W youth Secretary for the NDP, and one of the delegates at the convention, said she believes that the province can well afford to eliminate tuition fees since fees represent a small proportion of the total cost of education.

Kerr, a second-year math student at UW, said Ontario lags far behind the rest of Canada and North America in financing post-secondary education. "They (the provincial government) have cut back 15 per cent on funding," she said.

Wayne Lassard, provincial member for Windsor and parliamentary assistant to NDP education critic, Bud Wildman, was also at the convention. He said an NDP government would finance the costs of such a program through taxation and fees from traditionally derived government income. "We would rescind the Tory tax cuts for persons earning more than \$80,000 a year," he said.

He suggested increasing the minimum wage to 60 per cent of the average industrial wage as well as finance summer employment programs for students. "We feel that governments can play a role in creating job opportunities for young people," he said.

He referred to Jobs Ontario, a student-employment program implemented by the Bob Rae government in 1993, which provided financial assistance to employers who hired students. "The other

"I always thought socialists wanted to take money from the rich and give to the poor."

Gerry Martiniuk, Tory MPP

component of Jobs Ontario was to provide child care. The Tories only provide funding for spaces that are actually used for the education of students," he said.

In an interview, Gerry Martiniuk, Tory MPP for Cambridge, offered the government's perspective on the issues. He said he was skeptical of the claims by the NDP. In reference to the proposed 10 per cent grant, Martiniuk said, "Unlike this government, the NDP tend not to keep their promises." He also said the idea of freezing tuition fees was impractical.

"They (the Rae government) left us with an \$11 billion deficit. They have taxed the future, and this is all on top of a \$100 billion debt." Martiniuk also said the NDP's pledge to rescind the tax cuts would apply to everyone, not just the wealthy.

"We have cut income taxes by \$5

billion and increased revenues by more than \$5 billion," he said. "We've created 400,000 new jobs."

Martiniuk said the NDP plan to eliminate tuition fees was absurd. "By giving free tuition, those who choose not to go on to post-secondary education will be subsidizing those who do. Since those who have higher education can be expected to earn more than those who don't, the poor will wind up supporting the rich. I always thought socialists wanted to take money from the rich and give it to the poor."

Martiniuk said the province proposes to work with the federal government to recover student loans through the tax system. "Everybody who wants a loan will get it and repay it through tax deductions when they get a job. Obviously, if they don't get a job, then they won't have to pay."

Martiniuk said that the Tory decision to cancel Jobs Ontario was the right one. "It (Jobs Ontario) was the biggest boondoggle in the history of Ontario." He said the province has hired private collection agencies to recover some money still outstanding as a result of that program. In reference to the child-care component, he said the assistance was going to the wrong people. "A large number of those (day-care) slots at schools were taken by teachers who could afford day care elsewhere," he said.

Lassard disagreed. He said there is a place for increased government support in the education field. "The Tories' approach seems to be that the private sector can do everything better than the public sector can," he said. "If people need services, they should be able to pay for them. If they can't pay, then they're on their own."



Gerry Martiniuk, member of provincial parliament, at work in his constituency office in Cambridge.



Rob DeGregory (left), Cathy Kerr, Hugh Miller (far right) and Ted Martin are representatives of the K-W NDP riding association.

(Photos by Michael Hilborn)

30 per cent of tuition increases go to students, says minister

By Jason Gennings

About 20,000 jobs in Ontario are not being filled because there are not enough spaces in the educational system, Ontario Education Minister Dave Johnson told an Ontario Community College Student Parliamentary Association change-over conference May 9.

Johnson said he wants to see opportunity, accessibility and accountability, according to a transcript of the minister's visit by Fanshawe student union president Dan Nystedt, and vice-president Lori May.

The OCCSPA conference, which ran May 7-10 at Humber College in Toronto, is held each year to welcome the new student council executives from various colleges across Ontario.

Doon Student Association education co-ordinator Tara Llanes attended the conference with DSA president-elect Kristin Murphy.

Johnson's visit was the biggest highlight of the conference, said Llanes. Johnson's scheduled

half-hour speech went on for an hour and a half, as he answered questions, she said.

Johnson said the purpose of deregulation is to increase the numbers at community colleges by 50 per cent and at universities by 100 per cent in the high-tech area to about 17,000 new spaces.

"Students are being turned away as it is. Students are not even getting the opportunity," Johnson said.

Johnson said there is a huge need for people with the kind of skills you get from colleges.

"In those areas where there is a high demand where there is an expectation for high salary at the end of it, there may be leeway to increase the tuition fee," said Johnson.

OCCSPA members raised concerns about how students were to pay new tuition costs, and expressed their fears about a two-tiered education system.

Johnson said costs from the programs will come from government and private sectors, and there

are programs in place to help students who face tuition increases.

"We say that any time you increase the tuition, you have to take 30 per cent of that increase and make it available for students who need help, in the form of direct grants," said Johnson.

Some OCCSPA members also raised questions about how OSAP would work when covering the increased tuition costs.

"For OSAP the maximum remains at \$7,000. The rest of it is a grant; anything over \$7,000 is a grant," said Johnson.

Johnson also discussed the Student Opportunity Trust Fund, the upcoming Millennium Fund available to help fund students.

As Ontario grows, Johnson said, he expects there will be more demand for more institutions.

"I see more students sharing opportunities, for general and specialized courses, which our economy is demanding," said Johnson.

"Enrolment is going up and I see us striving for accountability and opportunity."

New anxiety course in the works

By Anita Santarossa

Student services is currently working on details of a new anxiety course that will be offered in September.

Student services counsellor Joan Magazine said the course was recently approved by the chair of academic support.

"Since students don't seem to have enough time for extra workshops or courses, we decided to make an elective course out of it, instead of adding extra workshops that won't count as a credit."

Magazine also said the course will meet the needs of more students.

"Rather than meet the needs of only one individual at a time, individuals will be able to deal with their anxieties in a collective and supportive group," said Magazine.

The course, entitled anxiety and personal performance, has never been offered before. It

will cover the definition of anxiety, as well as prevention and personal performance.

There will be three branches of the course which will focus on tests, public speaking and workplace anxieties, said Magazine.

She said the course will include one to two weeks of theory, seven weeks of small group workshops and six weeks focusing on an independent project related to a specific area of concern.

"Anxiety is something that affects everyone to some degree," said Magazine. "This course is designed to help students overcome their anxieties."

She said the anxiety issue is a prominent issue for students and is a major cause of students failing to succeed.

"Anxiety really gets in the way of success. Especially when students drop courses because they have public speaking components," said Magazine.

Conestoga College fire extinguishers checked monthly

By Amanda Fickling

The staff and students at Conestoga are not the only ones who get regular check ups. Fire extinguishers at Conestoga's campuses are also examined regularly.

Mike Wingate, from Bates Fire Protection, said all extinguishers are checked monthly by staff at Conestoga College, but a thorough investigation is done on each unit every year.

Bates Fire Protection was at Conestoga College's Doon campus on June 3, to recharge all the fire extinguishers.

Bates Fire Protection has a contract with Conestoga College to fix the extinguishers and recharge them when necessary, said Wingate.

The units are located all over campus, he said, including peripheral areas such as the power house, garages, and the spine of the buildings.

"There are fire extinguishers where you would never think they are," said Wingate. "They are even in the sewers."

There are four types of extinguishers — halon, carbon dioxide, ABC sprayers, and water — located around Doon campus, said Wingate.

The halon extinguishers are located in the computer labs. These units do not leave any residue after being sprayed, he said.

Caution must be taken when spraying the halon extinguishers, said Wingate, because they have toxins in them.

"If somebody is in an enclosed area when a lot of it is sprayed, it can be harmful."

The ABC sprayers are universal and spray dry powder. They can be used for any type of fire.

Water sprayers are usually used for garbage fires, said Wingate.

The company has contracts with other areas in southern Ontario. Bates Fire Protection services Brampton and Mississauga, and the Go Transit stations in Mississauga, which Wingate described as "one of our bigger places."



Dave Bates, owner of Bates Fire Protection, left, and Mike Wingate check the fire extinguishers at Doon June 6.

(Photo by Amanda Fickling)

Conestoga sponsors summer-league hockey

By Michael Hilborn

On any given weekend during the summer months, there are dozens, if not hundreds, of young people playing hockey at the Recreation Centre.

The Conestoga Recreational Summer League, which runs from April 24 to Aug. 29, is a program sponsored by the college and run by volunteers from the local community.

According to coach Chris Coghlan, this league is a little different from most. Coghlan, like most of the coaches, is a volunteer whose son plays in the league.

He said the main difference is the emphasis on fun and participation, as opposed to performance.

"The idea is to keep the kids on the ice," he said. "It gives the kids a chance to play against higher level players."

The teams, which are all named after NHL franchises, are composed of a mix of players from all the divisions within an age group. Coghlan's team, which is called the Flames, consists of 10-and-11 year-olds, drawn from all skill levels from House League to Triple A.

Coghlan says the emphasis is on competitive balance. "The perfect

game here is an eight-all tie," he said.

In order to achieve that objective, trades are made after every five or six games to even up the talent. This policy does not prevent individual players from excelling, however.

Becky Inker, 10, is the star of Coghlan's team. Becky is the only girl on the team but not the only girl in the league.

She is also considered one of the best players. Prior to the June 6 game, she was in third place in the league in points.

The four goals she scored in that game, while leading the Flames to a 6-1 victory over the Bruins, temporarily vaulted her into second place.

Coghlan said there are no quotas regarding girls, and no barriers, either. Some teams have two or three girls while others have none.

"If they (girls) want to play with the boys and they can make the team, then they play," he said.

Becky spent last winter playing in A league on a boys' Atom team. Coghlan said he thinks she will make Triple A this year.

Becky said she enjoys playing with the boys and she has no problems getting along with them. She is a big Maple Leafs fan and said her favorite player is Mats Sundin.

Coghlan said the most important thing to remember is that the whole idea behind the concept is fun. "There's no pressure on them (the kids)."

"We have three rules, which we reinforce in the dressing room before every game," he said. "Rule number one is 'have fun.' Rule number two is 'work hard as a team, both ends of the ice.' Rule number three is 'never forget rule number one.'"

Co-op office gets facelift

By Ned Bekavac

That pounding you hear is not that of a Condor racking his brain in study.

Room 2B08 was under renovation this past week. The college's co-op department, that also works out of room 2B04, will make use of the new-look office.

Jim and Nathan Klager, a father-son contracting team who work commercially for AGN Drywall Interiors in Guelph, maintained an eight-day schedule in reconstructing the room.

They are responsible for revamping the office. It is now divided into four closed-door quarters.

The contractors began their work on Tuesday, June 2, and, working full eight-hour days, were scheduled to have the office completed by Wednesday June 10.

This was Jim Klager first job at Conestoga College.

"We've done the corners, the drywall, the windows, the nuts, the bolts," the elder Klager said. "Basically, we've done everything in here except the carpet and electricity."

According to son Nathan, the office was initially nothing more than a "big empty room." Upon completion, the room is an impressive multi-roomed unit that can maintain privacy for its users even with its windows.

Though Conestoga is less populated in the summer, Jim Klager enjoyed the people. "Conestoga has got a good, upbeat atmosphere, unlike what I see when I work downtown Toronto," Klager said. "People here are always smiling."



Chris Coghlan stands with Becky Inker, the star player on his youth recreational league team.



Becky Inker scores her fourth goal in an Atom hockey game at the recreation centre June 6.

(Photo by Michael Hilborn)

College operating costs exceed \$1 million yearly

By Casey Johnson

You walk towards your front door after a long day at work, open your mailbox and groan about the bills inside. It is typical. It's work, work, work, and for what? To pay the bills of course.

Well, the next time the feeling overwhelms you, think of this. Conestoga College paid \$825,743.41 for hydro in their 1996-97 fiscal year.

In addition, it paid \$225,600.23 for gas; \$70,048.03 for water; and \$55,101.14 in sewage costs.

"The college pays a lot less now

compared to several years ago," said David Putt, director of physical resources at the college.

"I'd say the savings are in excess of \$300,000 now, compared to the costs in the fiscal 1992-93 year," he said.

"Some changes have occurred at the Cambridge campus that we are not including this year," said Putt, "but the rest of the overall figures are expected to remain relatively the same for this year coming up."

Putt explained how the system works.

"The services building (located outside Door 5) is the most critical

building on campus," said Putt.

It (the services building) holds three of the college's five 13,800 volt transformers that run at 200 amps and can break down to locally feed 600 volts to some of its sub-stations.

(In comparison, an ordinary light bulb requires about 115 volts.)

"It is important to have a higher voltage," said Putt, "because, the higher the voltage, the less electrical current. The less electrical current, the less copper you need to carry it. The less copper you need, the cheaper the wires cost to purchase and the less power loss you have."

The other two transformers are located at the recreation centre and the woodworking building.

The campus also has three boilers that run on natural gas but have the capacity to run on oil as well.

"Financially speaking, the gas is much more efficient," said Putt. Each one of the boilers run at 200 horsepower per unit.

(In comparison, a high-power vacuum in your home runs at about 1 1/2 horsepower.)

In bad weather, Putt said two of the boilers can run at maximum capacity at the same time. The other is a spare that can

be used intermittently with the other two, so none of them will have to run constantly without a break.

The chiller has a 740-tonne measure of cooling ability, a measurement that doesn't refer to its weight.

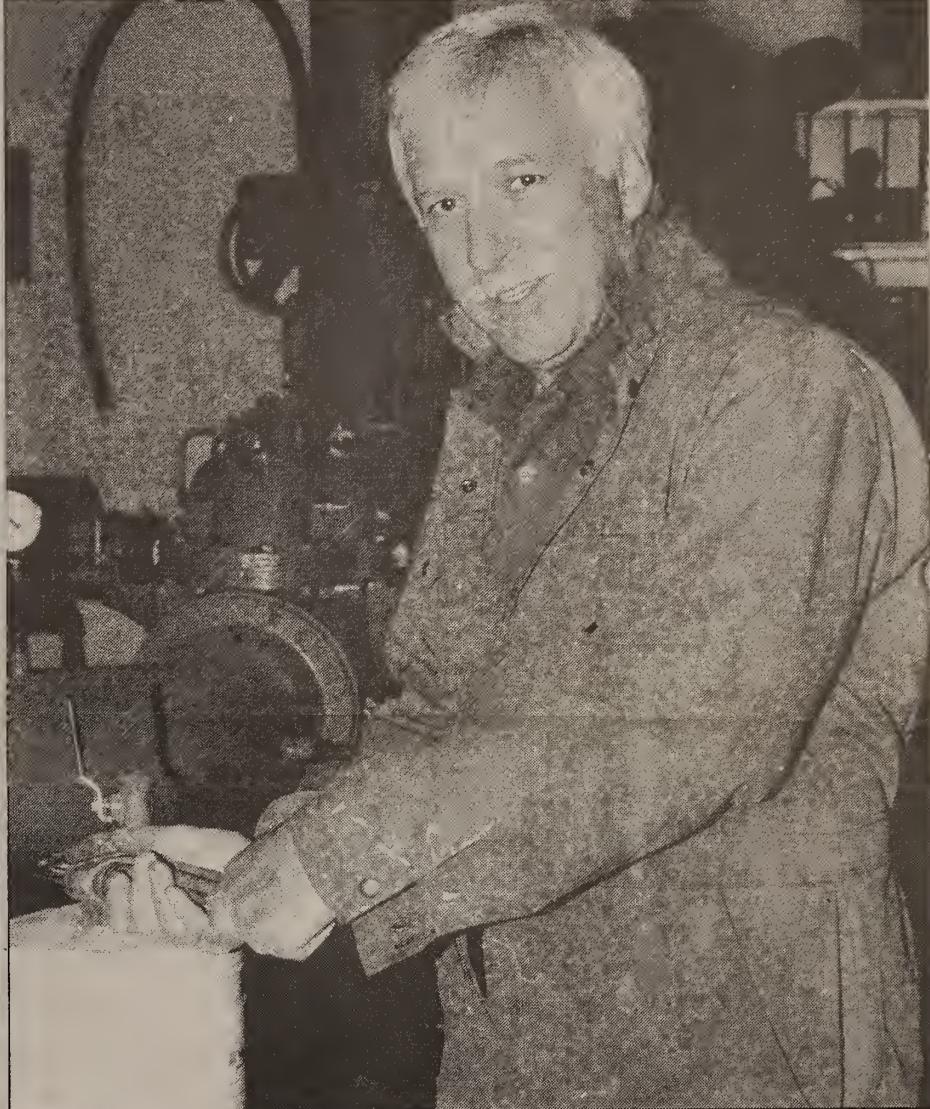
There is also a back-up generator for emergency lighting and peripheral heat.

"It runs on oil, and during a power loss, it takes approximately five to 10 seconds for the generator to kick in," said Putt.

The college also has two water-softening tanks and two sewage pumps.



Jack Baker, an 11-year mechanic technician at Doon, stands with a boiler in the services building outside Door 5.



Mechanic technician Jack Baker fixes a chiller strainer in the services building. (Photos by Casey Johnson)

Maintenance tends to outdoor repairs

By Donna Fierheller

With fewer students attending classes at Doon campus during summer months, college departments such as housekeeping are less busy while others are busier than usual.

The physical resources maintenance department takes advantage of good weather and less traffic to do outdoor repairs and installations from May to late August.

On May 28, maintenance employee Norman Pyne was busy sanding and scraping old paint and rust from the hydraulic lift at the shipping dock between doors four and five of the main building.

During a break, Pyne said, "You never know who's

watching you."

He said he answered an ad by M & M Cleaning Services and started working in housekeeping at the Doon campus location in September 1997. "When they laid off for this summer's holidays, Earl Weber from physical resources called me in and I started to work for him in maintenance."

Pyne said, "Earl Weber told me he had been watching me work (for M&M) and liked what he saw."

Pyne said he is happy to still be working. He is the father of nine children, five of whom are still living at home.

"You can't feed five kids on unemployment," he said, as he prepared to apply a fresh coat of yellow paint to the lift.



Maintenance worker Norman Pyne prepares hydraulic lift for a new coat of paint by shipping dock, located between Doors 4 and 5, on May 28. (Photo by Donna Fierheller)

Time running out for DSA book drop-off

By Lisa Roberts

Do you have some textbooks you want to get rid of? Are there any old school books you don't know what to do with?

There's still time to drop off your used books at the Doon Student Association office, located in the Sanctuary, for the DSA's annual used book sale. This year's sale takes place Aug. 24-27, and the dropoff deadline is Aug. 14.

"The book sale is very successful," said DSA president Kristin Murphy.

"Students see this going on and more come here than to the book-store."

Murphy said that in September 1997 he found the book sale extremely beneficial. "As soon as I found out about it I was here in a second," he said.

"It had everything I needed."

Any used texts may be dropped off at the Sanctuary during office hours. More information is available at the DSA office, or you can call Jenn Hussey, vice-president of operations, at 748-5131.



Laura Brillinger, left, administrative assistant for the Doon Student Association, and Kristin Murphy, DSA president, with some of the books donated to the annual DSA book sale. The sale takes place Aug. 24-27 in the Sanctuary.

(Photo by Lisa Roberts)

BOOK REVIEW

Book gives hire power to college graduates

When searching for work, knowing who we are, and how we accomplish things is as important as knowing what we can do.

By Donna Fierheller

Not your average how-to-get-a-job book, *The Job of Your Life: Four Groundbreaking Steps for Getting the Work You Want*, is not nearly as dull as the title would suggest.

This second book by author Karen Schaffer of Toronto, who has a Masters Degree in counseling psychology, is filled with thought-provoking information presented with both humor and insight.

Schaffer, a graduate of Toronto's Adler School of Professional Psychology, writes in a conversational tone as though talking to the reader.

In an easy-to-read format with catchy sub-headings, *The Job of Your Life* shows how self-awareness, using your own voice, being specific and inspired are as impor-

tant to the job search as knowing the fundamentals of resume writing, or knowing how to research potential employers and businesses.

Self-awareness, Schaffer writes, is all about learning how to overcome such internal obstacles as fearing we are not articulate, don't have a particular passion or are unsure of our goals. When searching for work, knowing who we

Schaffer, who frequently speaks to groups and the media on how the search for work is changing, says changing jobs is an expectation only of the last couple of decades, and the current generation can expect to have five to seven different careers over their lifetime.

Knowing how to write your own resumes and cover letters that get results are important considera-

and dissuade you, but they'll believe you believe what you are saying."

Schaffer's advice for cover letters is to 'type like you speak,' and 'try not to put too much stress on the old eyeball' when picking color and type style for the letter.

Besides offering new insight in how to approach the job search, her sound advice is easily transferable to other areas of life.

Whether you are looking for a job, or simply want to have a better understanding of your own worth, read *The Job of Your Life* once for enjoyment, and the second time for its practical information and inspiration.

The Job of Your Life: Four Groundbreaking Steps for Getting the Work You Want, is 272 pages long. The cost is \$19.95, and it is published by Prentice Hall Canada, a division of Simon & Schuster, 1870 Birchmount Rd., Scarborough, Ont.

Schaffer's first book was *Hire Power: The Ultimate Job Guide for Young Canadians*. Schaffer holds a Bachelor of Arts in cultural studies from McGill University, Montreal, and has also been a producer at the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. In addition to working full-time, she consults with individuals about their career goals.

DSA gets a helping hand

By Lisa Roberts

The Doon Student Association recently got a helping hand with its bookkeeping and accounting duties.

Sharon Van Hemmen has been taking care of bookkeeping and accounting for the DSA since the end of May. Some of her duties include deposits, paying bills, monthly financial statements, and taking care of the payroll for the DSA staff.

Van Hemmen said the amount of work involved with organizing the ACCPAC system the DSA uses for its financial statements has been overwhelming.

"I've been trying to clean up the system," she said. "There's lots of learning, but it's a nice place to work."

According to Laura Brillinger, the DSA's administrative assistant, Van Hemmen is in charge of all financial aspects of the student association.

The DSA created the separate position of bookkeeper/accountant to keep financial matters organized.

"We had everyone doing different things, like deposits," explained Brillinger. "It was easier having one person doing it all."

Van Hemmen works an average of 15 hours per week, and is paid by the DSA.

Van Hemmen was taking continuing education courses in bookkeeping at the Doon campus during the teachers' strike 13 years ago, she said. She also took similar programs at Laurier for training in bookkeeping/accounting.

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